

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7180

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: JA PFOR KN

SUBJ: JSP DELEGATION TO VISIT NORTH KOREA

SUMMARY: JSP MISSION LEAVES OCTOBER 3 FOR NORTH KOREA. GROUP WILL SEEK TO PROMOTE NORMALIZATION JAPAN-NORTH KOREAN RELATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF POLITICAL LEADERS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES.

1. JSP GOODWILL MISSION HEADED BY FORMER CHAIRMAN, KOZO SASAKI, LEAVES OCTOBER 3 FOR ONE WEEK VISIT TO NORTH KOREA. TRAVELING AT INVITATION OF NORTH KOREAN CULTURAL LIAISON COUNCIL WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES, GROUP WILL CALL ON KIM IL SUNG IN PYONGYANG TO DELIVER LETTER FROM JSP CHAIRMAN TOMOMI NARITA. THEY WILL HOLD TALKS WITH KIM AND OTHER NORTH KOREAN OFFICIALS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING NORMALIZATION OF JAPAN-NORTH KOREA RELATIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS, SASAKI WILL ALSO SEEK TO ACCELERATE EXCHANGE OF JAPANESE AND NORTH KOREAN POLITICAL LEADERS. SPECIFICALLY, PRESS QUOTES SOURCES CLOSE TO PARTY AS SAYING, HE WILL TRY TO REACH AGREEMENT ON VISIT TO JAPAN BY KIM GWAN SOP, CHAIRMAN OF CULTURAL LIAISON COUNCIL.

3. COMMENT: FONOFF (NORTHEAST ASIA DIV HEAD SEO) TELLS US THAT PROSPECTS FOR EXCHANGE OF PERSONS WITH NORTH
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KOREA WERE HINDERED RATHER THAN HELPED BY RECENT JAPANESE

TOUR OF NORTH KOREAN SONG AND DANCE TROOP. AS THIS WAS
FIRST MAJOR DPRK CULTURAL DELEGATION TO VISIT JAPAN,
GOJ WAS WATCHING CAREFULLY TO SEE IF MEMBERS KEPT
WITHIN VISA GUIDELINES PROHIBITING POLITICAL
ACTIVITIES. QUITE TO CONTRARY, GROUP LEADER YUN GI BOK GAVE
SEVERAL

PRESS INTERVIEWS DURING WHICH HE SPOUTED STANDARD LINE ON
NORTH-SOUTH TALKS, KIM CASE, YI HU RAK, ETC. THESE
ACTIONS PROMPTED ROK EMBASSY TO PROTEST REPEATEDLY TO
FONOFF, WHICH IN TURN PASSED HEAT TO MIN JUSTICE AS
AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMITTING NORTH KOREANS AND MON-
ITORING THEIR COMPLIANCE WITH BAN ON POLITICKING. SEO COMMENTED

THAT YUN WAS PROBABLY ACTING ON ADVICE FROM CHOSEN SOREN,
BUT HIS AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR DEFINITELY BACKFIRED BECAUSE
MIN JUSTICE WILL NOW BE VERY RELUCTANT TO GRANT VISAS
TO NORTH KOREANS, PARTICULARLY POLITICAL FIGURES.
INGERSOLL

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